in all too many cases the jobs are not there, or the jobs at decent wages are not there. Why don't we make a commitment to making sure that people find employment? That is dignity.

We have communities where there are compelling needs—there is elder care, there is child care, there is housing rehab, there is community crime prevention, there is teacher's assistance, there is environmental cleanup, all sorts of work to be done and people who can't find any jobs. I will introduce a bill that will provide people—we have now a 5 million job gap between people that want to work and jobs vacant—provide people with a transition whereby they have a job for a year at a decent wage with these benefits, and then can transition to private sector. We need to get more private capital in these communities. But when you have people in our rural areas, our ghettos and our barrios who have worked and worked on community-building jobs and have the dignity and build up some of the skills, then private sector gets more interested in these communities. But right now in a lot of communities in our country, people are crying out, where are the jobs?

Mr. President, we can do much better. We have to make these investments. I am saying to my colleagues today on the floor of the Senate that as we go into the next century there are some contradictions we cannot live with. There are some contradictions in this city, Washington, DC, right here in this city, and all across the country. We have to make sure that we are investing in communities. We have to make sure we are investing in children. We have to make sure we are investing in education, and not just in education for some children, not just affordable child care for some children, not just health care for some citizens. If we are going to argue that these are priorities, then we have to back the rhetoric with the resources. We have to make the investment.

Mr. President, I worry that at the very time where we have the best chance to make this investment—at a time of real optimism, at a time when I think people in the country feel good and know that we can do better, that justice, fairness, opportunity, building communities and building leadership are things that we can do—we are going to miss the opportunity by making speeches but not following up the speeches, by not really meaning what we say, and not really making the investment.

President Clinton, thank you for pinpointing some of these initiatives. Republican colleagues, maybe in areas like child care we can come together. I hope we can. But for the President and all my colleagues, we can't outline problems and say we are committed to making a huge difference and then not make the investment that is anywhere near the scale of what needs to be done to make a difference. We can do much better than what the President out-

lined in his address for children, we can do much better for education, we can do much better for health care, and we can do much better when it comes to tackling problems with race, gender, poverty, and children in America.

I appreciate what the President has outlined as a first step, but we ought to be doing much better here in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. We ought to be doing much better. This is our chance to make an enormous difference.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for morning business until 2:45 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER RAY C. SIMMONS, U.S. NAVY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval officer, Commander Ray C. Simmons, upon his retirement from the Navy after more than twenty years of commissioned service. Throughout his career, Commander Simmons has served with distinction, and it is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments and to commend him for the superb service he has provided the Navy and the nation.

Commander Simmons entered the United States Naval Academy from the State of New Hampshire in 1973 and was commissioned as an Ensign upon graduation in 1977. Since then, Commander Simmons has spent his career patrolling the world's oceans as a Naval Flight Officer and oceanographer. Following flight training, he began his service in Patrol Squadron Four in Barbers Point, Hawaii, making three deployments to the western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, including operations in support of the 1979-80 Iranian hostage crisis. In 1990, he joined the staffs of the United States Sixth Fleet and NATO Strike Force South, embarked in USS Belknap, homeported in Gaeta, Italy. During the Persian Gulf War, Commander Simmons, as Fleet oceanographer, served as a member of the TLAM cruise missile targeting team, planning strikes on Iraq from the eastern Mediterranean Sea. He also served as Flag Lieutenant and personal aide to the Sixth Fleet Commander.

When not at sea, Commander Simmons has likewise served with distinction on the staffs of Patrol Wing Two and the Chief of Naval Operations, in the Naval Western Oceanography Center and as Aide and acting Deputy Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as the first Department of Defense liaison officer for joint NASA-Defense earth science applications programs. In 1995, he commanded the United States Naval Ice Center, with additional responsibility as Director of the joint Coast Guard, Navy and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration United States National Ice Center. and served as the lead Department of Defense lead technical advisor to the Russia-United States Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission Environmental Working Group. Among Commander Simmons's many awards and decorations are the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Expeditionary Medals and the Southwest Asia Service Medal. He is both a qualified Naval Flight Officer and Naval oceanographer.

During his more than twenty year Commander Simmons career. has served the United States Navy and the nation with excellence and distinction. He has been an integral member of, and contributed greatly to, the besttrained, best-equipped and best-prepared naval force in the history of the world. Commander Simmons's unflappable leadership, integrity, and limitless energy have had a profound and positive impact on the United States Navy and the nation.

Commander Simmons will retire from the United States Navy on March 1, 1998, after twenty years and nine months of dedicated commissioned service. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I wish Commander Simmons fair winds and following seas. Congratulations on completion of an outstanding and successful career.

RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN JOHN LYNCH

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man a number of us, especially those who are members of the Armed Services Committee, have come to know over the past several years, Captain John Lynch who retired from the United States Navy during the Christmas Recess.

There are few careers more demanding or rewarding than those in our armed forces, and in, 1972, John Lynch joined the Navy. Despite Richard Nixon's overwhelming re-election to the Presidency, this was a tension charged era in our Nation, we were in the waning days of our involvement in Vietnam and most young people were seeking ways to avoid military service. Few people were actually entering the

armed services on their own volition, but John was an exception, and his spirit of patriotism and selflessness would serve him well throughout his career. In 1974, a young John Lynch donned cap and gown and accepted his bachelor's degree in Industrial Education and earned a commission as an Ensign. Leaving the comfortable and familiar campus of The College of New Jersey, he headed south to the hot, humid weather of the Florida panhandle and the vocal, uncompromising, and unforgiving Marine Corps Drill Instructors who put the aviation candidates through their paces and initiated them into the life of the military.

By the time then Ensign Lynch graduated from flight school, Vietnamization was fully in place and responsibility for prosecuting the war was squarely on the shoulders of the Republic of Vietnam. Though American military personnel were no longer involved in a "shooting war", the United States was certainly locked into a tense, dangerous, and sometimes deadly Cold War with communist nations. During this period in our history, the United States and, primarily, the former Soviet Union stared at each other over fortified borders, and tested each other's defenses and military capabilities. Certainly one key element in how this Cold War was prosecuted was anti-submarine warfare, where American and Soviet submariners shadowed and evaded each other and the ships and aircraft that tried to detect and monitor their activities. It was as a part of this nuclear weapons cat and mouse game that John Lynch cut his teeth as a young Naval officer and aviator, flying operations looking for Soviet submarines.

As many will remember, the Cold War would heat up from time to time, and there was a period in the 1980's when events in the Middle East forced the United States to use force to protect our citizens, interests, and security. Inflammatory and hateful rhetoric espoused by radical leaders, coupled with things such as the infamous "Line of Death", the bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut, and a campaign of terror directed at the United States and her allies that brought American military assets to bear in the Mediterranean, and John Lynch was among those deployed to that region. As a matter of fact, as the Officer in Charge of the Navy's first dual SH-60B helicopter detachment aboard the U.S.S. Halyburton as it conducted operations off the coast of Libya, John logged nine combat flights in support of the fleet. Those experiences demonstrated the competence, composure, and courage of John Lynch, the essential qualities of any successful leader. whether he or she be in the military, the government, or the private sector. They certainly benefitted him, and those who served under him in HSL-42, during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

Of course, Captain Lynch's career was not all dangerous missions flown

in the cramped cockpit of Navy helicopters, throughout his 24-years in the service, he held a number of different assignments that promoted Naval rotor wing aviation, including at IBM; Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego; Naval Aide and Flag Secretary at Naval Air Station Jacksonville: and on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations for Surface Warfare. He earned a Master's Degree from the University of Southern California while he was stationed in San Diego. He also participated in the LEGIS Fellows Program. serving as a Military Legislative Assistant to my friend, United States Representative Tillie Fowler.

It was during his almost three year tenure as Director of Senate Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense that we came to know John Lynch. In that position, the Captain was responsible for being the liaison between the Department of Defense and all Senators and their staffers, though his primarily interaction was with the members and staff of the Armed Services Committee. A gregarious and competent man, Captain Lynch was an excellent representative of the Secretary of Defense who rendered an important service, helped facilitate positive relations between the Pentagon and the Senate, and made certain that the positions of the Secretary of Defense and the Executive Branch were well represented. He was unquestionably professional and accommodating and he set an excellent example for all those who worked for him in the Office of Senate Affairs, as well as for his successor

After more than 20 years in service to the Navy and the Nation, it must be difficult for Captain Lynch to begin a new career, but he can look back on his time as a Naval Officer and take great satisfaction and pride in a job well done. His efforts helped to assure that the United States and her citizens were well protected, and I know Captain Lynch must be proud that his eldest son. Shaun, has chosen to follow in his father's public spirited footsteps by attending the Naval Academy and serving the Nation. I wish John Lynch, his wife Linda, son Shaun, and daughters Laurne and Kelly health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, February 2, 1998, the Federal debt stood at \$5,483,592,532,096.82 (Five trillion, four hundred eighty-three billion, five hundred ninety-two million, five hundred thirty-two thousand, ninety-six dollars and eighty-two cents).

Five years ago, February 2, 1993, the Federal debt stood at \$4,177,801,000,000 (Four trillion, one hundred seventy-seven billion, eight hundred one million).

Ten years ago, February 2, 1988, the Federal debt stood at \$2,463,053,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred sixty-three billion, fifty-three million).

Fifteen years ago, February 2, 1983, the Federal debt stood at \$1,200,725,000,000 (One trillion, two hundred billion, seven hundred twenty-five million).

Twenty-five years ago, February 2, 1973, the Federal debt stood at \$449,134,000,000 (Four hundred fortynine billion, one hundred thirty-four million) which reflects a debt increase of over \$5 trillion—\$5,034,458,532,096.82 (Five trillion, thirty-four billion, four hundred fifty-eight million, five hundred thirty-two thousand, ninety-six dollars and eighty-two cents) during the past 25 years.

MARKING THE 65TH BIRTHDAY OF SENATOR PAUL SARBANES

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I would like today to pay tribute to one of my most esteemed colleagues on the occasion of his birthday. For, sixty-five years ago, in Salisbury, Maryland, two Greek immigrants named Spyros and Matina Sarbanes gave birth to a child, whom they named Paul. I, for one, have no doubt—although history does not provide confirmation of my conjecture—that within a few days, or perhaps weeks, of this event, young Paul had begun the earnest and impassioned learning that would distinguish him throughout his life.

This learning has paid dividends throughout the life and career of PAUL SARBANES. It won him a scholarship to Princeton—from where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa—and earned him a Rhodes Scholarship. Thence, he proceeded to Harvard Law School and a prestigious clerkship with a federal appellate court judge. After conquering such mountains early on, he might have been forgiven for resting on his laurels, but these early triumphs proved to be simply prologue to further achievements. Senator SARBANES' drive and his intelligence propelled him from a law firm to the Maryland House of Delegates, then on to the U.S. House, and, in 1976, to the U.S. Senate. How wonderfully appropriate that the year in which this country celebrated its bicentennial it should also witness, in the election of Senator SARBANES, confirmation of the basic American tenet that any man-even the child of immigrants—can rise to the highest levels in this country! And who better than Senator SARBANES to prove that the American meritocracy, which rewards extraordinary wisdom and diligence, endures?

For over two decades, I have been privileged to work alongside Senator SARBANES. I have learned in that time to put down whatever business I have before me and pay careful attention when this man speaks on the floor. For I know that whatever words issue forth from his mouth will be the result of careful consideration, intelligent analysis, and a nuanced balancing of the facts. These qualities distinguish Senator SARBANES' remarks, and they are the reason why this man epitomizes for